

Assessing Office

The Selectmen/Assessors are responsible for discovering, listing, and assessing all real and business personal property subject to taxation in the municipality. These duties have been performed under the direction of the Selectmen/Assessors by two Certified Maine Assessors, Deborah Turner and Curt Lebel.

The new 2005 revaluation was completed by Vision Appraisal Technology and the 2005 taxes reflected the new values. The number of abatements requested was consistent with having a Townwide revaluation. The Vision Technology upgrades will enable the Assessors to maintain more accurate assessments, and therefore, distribute Harpswell's tax burden fairly under Maine Law.

During 2005, the office processed over three hundred seventy-five (375) property transfers. Transfers include fair market sales, land splits, inter-family transactions, gifts, etc. As a result of the transfers, survey plans and other documents provided to this office, it was necessary to make over two hundred thirty-two (232) changes to the tax maps.

By law, certain properties are exempt from taxation. Two exemptions are of special benefit to residents – the homestead exemption, and the veterans and widows of veterans' exemption. One thousand five hundred seventy-four (1,574) property owners, who established Harpswell as their primary residence, qualified for a homestead exemption. Two hundred eighty-one (281) veterans, who served during a recognize war period and are 62 or older, or their widows, received the veterans exemption.

Important Deadlines

April 1, 2006: All property owners (real estate and personal property) are required to declare what they own on or before April 1, 2006.

April 1, 2006: Applications due for owners applying for exemptions/classification: Veterans, Homestead, Blind, Tree Growth, Farmland, Open Space, and Charitable & Benevolent Institutions.



*Debbie Turner
Assessor*

*Curt Lebel
Assessor*